CLAIMS

1. A defence system for a target (11) against an attacking projectile of the type incorporating a launcher device (1) for defensive projectiles and control means for the device after the attacking projectile has been detected, *wherein* the launcher device (1) comprises a cupola (2) mobile in bearing with respect to the target and a launcher (4) integral with the cupola and articulated in elevation in the bearing range of the cupola to ensure a compactness of the whole assembly with respect to the target.

2. A defence system according to Claim 1, wherein the launcher (4) is mounted articulated at its base around a hinge pin (17) integral with the cupola (2).

3. A defence system according to Claim 2, wherein the cupola (2) is in the form of a circular seat (3) delimiting a lateral wall whose height is less than half its external diameter.

4. A defence system according to Claim 3, wherein the launcher (4) is activated in rotation by a jack (19) placed in the inner space delimited by the lateral wall, integral at one end with the cupola and whose rod (20) is integral with a lever (18) extending the base of said launcher.

5. A defence system according to Claim 4, wherein at zero elevation the jack rod (20) is parallel to the plane (P1) of rotation in bearing of the cupola.

6. A defence system according to any one of the above Claims, wherein the launcher (4) is articulated in elevation at an angle of between -10° and +70°.

7. A defence system according to any one of the above Claims, wherein the length of the launcher (4) is substantially equal to the diameter (d) of the cupola.

8. A defence system according to Claim 7, wherein the launcher (4) incorporates two launching tubes (5, 6) placed side by side.

9. A defence system according to any one of the above Claims, wherein the cupola (2) is activated in bearing rotation with respect to the target (11) using a rack pinion (15, 27) assembly.

10. A defence system according to Claim 5, wherein the pinion (15) is integral with the cupola (2).

11. A defence system according to Claim 6, wherein the rack (27) is integral with the control means (9) comprising a double-acting jack (25) whose piston (26) is activated by a hydraulic unit (10).

12. A defence system according to Claim 11, wherein the axis of the piston (26) is substantially parallel to the plane (P1) of bearing rotation.